

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11323 190742Z

45

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 EB-11 /039 W

----- 001227

R 190722Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2177

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 11323

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN UR

SUBJ: BUSINESS FACILITATION

REF: MOSCOW 10766

1. WHILE NONE OF COMPANIES INTERVIEWED SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED BANK ACCOUNT SITUATION FOR FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS IN MOSCOW AS PARTICULAR PROBLEM IN BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS HERE, EMBASSY'S OWN EXPERIENCE WOULD APPEAR TO SUGGEST THAT SUBJECT MIGHT APPROPRIATELY BE RAISED IN COURSE OF JOINT COMMISSION OR WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

2. U.S. GOVT NOW MAINTAINS THREE ACCOUNTS WITH VNESHTORG-BANK: (A) ACCOUNT 07001480 IN U.S. DOLLARS IN NAME OF AMEMBASSY MOSCOW; (B) ACCOUNT 70119499 IN RUBLES IN NAME OF RFC PARIS; AND (C) ACCOUNT 70119059 IN RUBLES IN NAME OF AMEMBASSY. ACCOUNT (A) IS REPLENISHED AS NEEDED BY USDO FROM RFC PARIS AND IS DRAWN UPON (A) TO MAKE DOLLAR PAYMENTS BY BANK TRANSFER TO DOLLAR ACCOUNTS OF CERTAIN SOVIET TRADE ORGANIZATIONS (VENDORS) WHICH REQUIRE PAYMENT BY DOLLAR TRANSFER AND (B) TO PURCHASE RUBLES THROUGH COMMERICAL EXCHANGE. ACCOUNT (B) WAS INTENDED TO TAKE OVER FUNCTIONS OF ACCOUNT (C) AS STEP TOWARD CONVERTING ALL ACCOUNTS TO RFC PAYMENT. ACCOUNT (C), MAINTAINED WITH CONSTANT BALANCE OF 100 RUBLES, IS USED TO PAY MAJORITY OF SOVIET VENDORS WHO REQUIRED PAYMENT BY RUBLE BANK TRANSFER.

3. AT LEAST SINCE EARLY 1972 EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11323 190742Z

IN EFFORTS TO DEPOSIT RUBLES RECEIVED FROM SOVIET GOVT

ORGANIZATION (GOSKONTSERT) TO ACCOUNT (C). THESE GOSKONTSERT PAYMENTS ARE HONORARIA FOR USG-SPONSORED ARTISTS' TOURS IN USSR. OSTENSIBLE REASON FOR REFUSAL PERMIT RUBLE DEPOSITS IN ACCOUNTS (B) OR (C) IS THAT EMBASSY RUBLE ACCOUNTS ARE "CONVERTIBLE," I.E., ARE FOR DOLLARS DESTINED FOR CONVERSION INTO RUBLES BUT NOT FOR DEPOSIT OF RUBLES.

4. ALTHOUGH VNESBTORGBANK CHAIRMAN INVAOV REPORTEDLY AGREED SIX MONTHS AGO TO ESTABLISH NON-CONVERTIBLE RUBLE ACCOUNT AT VNESBTORGBANK FOR EMBASSY USE, SUBSEQUENT ATTEMPTS TO INDUCE BANK OFFICIALS TO CARRY OUT IVANOV'S PROMISE HAVE NOT PROVED SUCCESSFUL.
DUBS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW11323
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730925/aaaaarum.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 10766
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <04-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BUSINESS FACILITATION
TAGS: BGEN, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005